DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 148 102 FL 008 204

AUTHOR	Street, Chester; And Others
TITLE	Murrinh Nganki (Our Language), 1.
INSTITUTION	Summer Inst. of Linguistics, Darwin (Australia). Australian Aborigines Branch.
SPONS AGENCY	Australian Schools Commission, Canberra.
PUB DATE	76
NOTE	55p.; Funds were provided through the Australian Schools Commission's Innovations Programme
AVAILABLE FROM	Summer Institute of Linguistics, P. O. Berrimah, Darwin, Northern Territory 5788, Australia ($0.80 Australian)
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.83 HC-$3.50 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	*Australian Aboriginal Languages; *Bilingual Education; Consonants; Grammar; *Instructional Materials; Literacy Education; *Reading Instruction; *Reading Materials; Vocabulary; Vowels
IDENTIFIERS	*Australia; *Murinbata

ABSTRACT

This primer is the first in a series of four trial primers intended to teach the speakers of the Murrinh-patha language to read and write in their mother tongue. The approach and method of this primer is eclectic, based on principles developed by Dr. Sarah Gudschinsky. It has been designed to teach the vowels "a," "u," "i," and "e" and the consonants "k," "th," "m," "p," "n," "l," and "d" in syllable-initial position, and "m" and "t" in syllable-final position. The grammatical units "i," "kanhi," "ngarra," "dim," "bere," "ngay," and "wanku" are taught in context as sight units and "Nalpu," Ngintinit," ku bali," "mi thanka," "yile," "thamul waya," and "thay" are introduced as sight words. A glossary containing all the words found in this book is provided at the end of the book. All 12 units are illustrated. (Author/AM)

****
* Documents acquired by ERIC include many informal unpublished *
* materials not available from other sources. ERIC makes every effort *
* to obtain the best copy available. Nevertheless, items of marginal *
* reproducibility are often encountered and this affects the quality *
* of the microfiche and hardcopy reproductions ERIC makes available *
* via the ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS). EDRS is not *
* responsible for the quality of the original document. Reproductions *
* supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made from the original. *
****

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Summer Institute of Linguistics

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC) AND USERS OF THE ERIC SYSTEM."

ED148102

FL008204

Murrinh Nganki 1

MURRINH-PATHA

Summer Institute of Linguistics
Australian Aborigines Branch
Darwin
1976

© SUMMER INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS 1976

ISBN 0 86892 142 4

PREFACE

Murrinh Ngarki 1, 'Our Language', is the first in a series of four trial primers to teach the speakers of the Murrinh-patha (Murinbata) language to read and write in their mother tongue. These materials will be used for the Bilingual Programme of the Department of Education (Northern Territory Division) in the school at Port Keats.

Port Keats is situated in the Northern Territory approximately 250 kilometers south-west of Darwin, where there are approximately 1,000 speakers of Murrinh-patha.

An accompanying Teachers' Guide explains in detail the method for teaching this primer. Also accompanying this primer is a supplementary reading book entitled Murrinh Niyith-niyith 1 and a workbook entitled Murrinh Parililnu 1. The approach and method of this primer is eclectic, based on principles developed by Dr. Sarah Gudschinsky. It has been designed to teach the vowels a, u, i, and e and the consonants k, th, m, p, n, l, d, in the syllable initial position and m and t in the syllable final position. The grammatical units i, kanhi, ngarra, dim, bere, ngay, and wanku are taught in context as sight units and Nalpu, Ngintinit, ku bali, mi thanka, yile, thamul waya and thay are introduced as sight words.

A glossary of all words found in this primer is provided at the end of the book.

Murrinh Nganki 1 was prepared by Chester and Lyn Street of the Summer Institute of Linguistics, Australian Aborigines Branch, together with Tobias Ardenitchie Ngunbe, the main story author and illustrator of this primer. Valuable assistance was also given by Theodora Darrnanthi Narndu.

This project was supported by a grant from the Australian Government made under the Innovations Programme of the Schools Commission.

The views expressed here do not necessarily represent the views of the Schools Commission.

Nalpu

Ngintinit

Unit 1

ku thurrudirr
thu
u

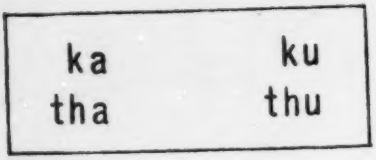
kawu
ka
a

2

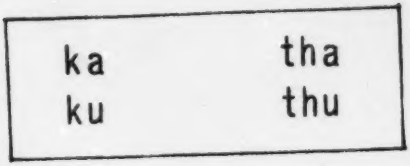
a	u
ka	ku

u	a
thu	tha

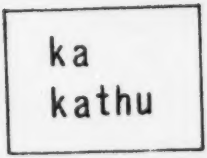
3

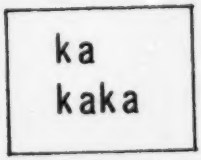


4



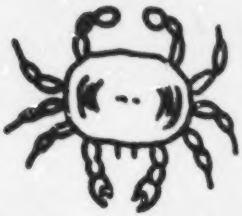
5





kawu, ku thurrudirr kathu.

Unit 2



ku bali

mama
ma
a

2

a	u
ma	mu

3

ma
mu

4

ma	mu
ka	ku
tha	thu

5

ma
maku

tha
thama

6

mama ku-ka?
ku-ka?
ku
ku-ka?
mama ku-ka?

mama kawu-ka?

"mama, ku-ka?"

"ku bali maku."

Unit 3

ku pala
pa
a

2

a	u
pa	pu

3

pa
pu

4

pa	pu
ma	mu
ka	ku
tha	thu

5

pa
patha

pa
paku

pa
pama

6

ku pala i ku thurrudirr
ku pala
ku pala i ku thurrudirr

ku thurrudirr-ka ku patha
ku thurrudirr
ku pala-ka ku patha

ku thurrudirr-ka ku patha
ku bali-ka maku

ku pala i ku thurrudirr-ka ku patha,
mu ku bali-ka maku.

Unit 4

mi kilen
ki
i

mi thanka

2

i	i	i
ki	mi	pi

3

ki
mi
pi

4

ki	mi	pi
ka	ma	pa
ku	mu	pu

5

pi
pipi

ma
mami

6

mi thanka-ka kanhi
kanhi
mi kilen-ka kanhi

mi thanka-ka kanhi
mi thanka-ka mami

"pipi, mi-ka?"

"mi thanka-ka kanhi
mu mi kilen-ka mami."

Unit 5

da niminem
ni
i

2

i	a	u
ni	na	nu

3

ni
na
nu

4

ni	na	nu
ki	ka	ku
pi	pa	pu
mi	ma	mu

5

nu
numi

pa
pana

nu
nuku
nukunu

pa
pani
paninu

6

Nalpu-ka pikunu ngarra da niminem ngarra da niminem da niminem ngarra da niminem Nalpu-ka pikunu ngarra da niminem
nukunu-ka pikunu ngarra da niminem

5

kaka nukunu Nalpu-ka pikunu
ku thurrudirr ngarra da niminem.

yile

yile nukunu Nalpu-ka pikunu ku thurrudirr.

i Nalpu-ka paninu kanhi ngarra kaka nukunu.

Unit 7

kawu mampurl dim
mampurl
mam
ma

2

ma	na	ku	pi
mam	nam	kum	pim

3

mam
nam
kum
pim

4

mam	nam	kum	pim
ma	na	ku	pi

5

mam
mampa
mampatha

ka
kanam

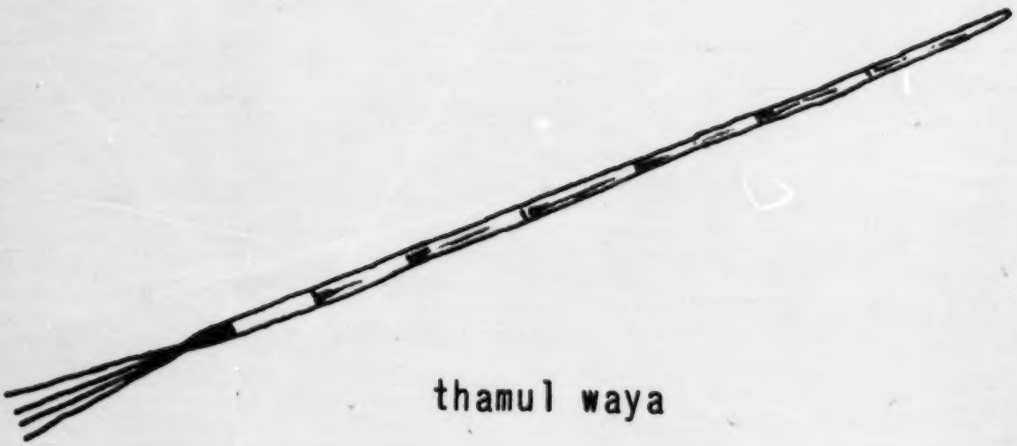
ka
kanam
kanamku

6

```
kawu mampurl dim
     mampurl dim
             dim
     mampurl dim
pipi mampurl dim
```

```
kaka mampatha dim
     mampatha dim
             dim
     mampatha dim
yile mampatha dim
```

```
kawu mampurl dim
yile mampatha dim
```



thamul waya

yile nukunu-ka kanamku i kaka thamul waya mampatha dim ku-nu.

kawu mampurl dim i pipi kanam ngarra da niminem.

Unit 8

mi lawam
la
a

2

a	u	i
la	lu	li

3

la
lu
li

4

la	lu	li
pa	pu	pi
ma	mu	mi
ka	ku	ki

5

tha
thali
ku thali

ku
kumi
mi kumilu

pa
pani
panila
panilanu

"mama mi-ka?" Nalpu-ka mam.

"mi lala kanhi i mi lawam mampatha," mamna.

nukunu mam, "patha."

Unit 9

ku dirri ngarra thay
dirri
di
i

2

i	u	a
di	du	da

3

di
du
da

4

di	du	da
li	lu	la
pi	pu	pa

4a

di	du	da
dim	dum	dam

5

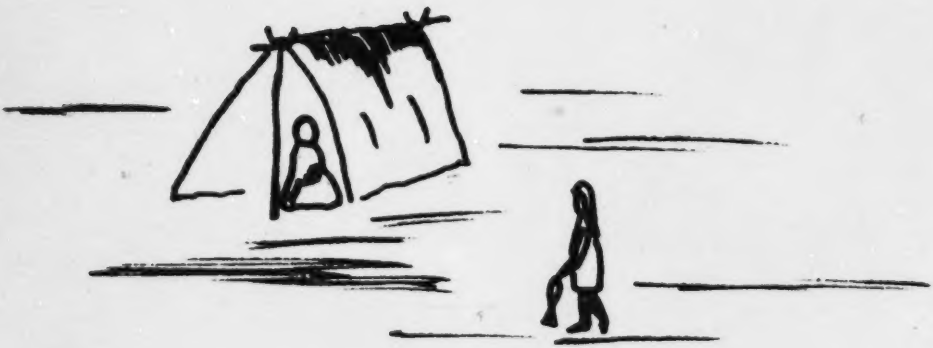
dum
dumdum
ku dumdum

ka
kana
kanadi

ka
kana
kanala

pa
pani
panidi
panidinu

6 bere, Nalpu-ka ngarra thay panilanu
bere
bere, Nalpu-ka ngarra thay panilanu



Ngintinit-ka ku thurrudirr dimku
i panidinu ngarra pipi.

bere, Nalpu-ka ngarra thay panilanu ku dumdum-nu ngarra ku dirri.

Unit 10

ku manthikat
kat
ka

2

ka	ku	mu	pi
kat	kut	mut	pit

3

kat
kut
mut
pit

4

kat	kut	mut	pit
kam	kum	mum	pim

5

ka
kalam
kalampitpit
ku kalampitpit

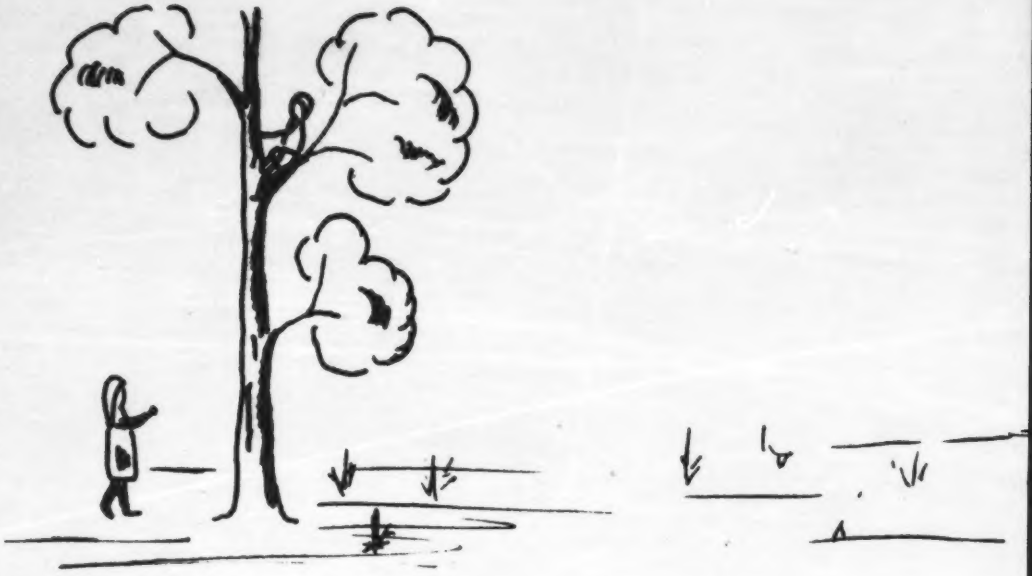
pa
pani
panikut
panikutnu

dam
damna
damnamut

6

ku dumdum ngay kanhi
ku dumdum ngay
ngay
ku manthikat ngay
ku manthikat ngay kanhi

ku dumdum ngay kanhi
ku dumdum nukunu kanhi



bere, Nalpu-ka ngarra thay kanala.
i ku dumdum kanamkut ku ngarra manthikat nukunu.

i ngarra yile nukunu mamna,
"ku dumdum ngay kanhi." i damnamut.

Unit 11

da pemanhay

pe

e

2

e	e	e	e
pe	me	de	le

3

pe
me
de
le

4

pe	me	de	le
pi	mi	di	li
pa	ma	da	la

4a

pe	me	de	le
pet	met	dem	lem

5

ne
neki

pe
pene
peneme

pa
pani
panilala
panilalanu

6

ku thali i ku pala wanku
ku pala wanku
ku pala
ku bali wanku
ku thali i ku bali wanku

ku thali i ku pala wanku
ku thali i ku pala kanhi

Nalpu le patha dim ngarra pemanhay
ku thali i ku pala wanku kanamkut.
mu Ngintinit-ka pepe dim.

Unit 12

bere, peneme-ka le patha. Nalpu-ka ku pala i ku dumdum wanku kanamkut. yile nukunu ku thurrudirr dimku. i kaka nukunu ku mune i ku thurrudirr wanku dimku.

bere, kawu nukunu Nalpu-ka
mi thanka mampurl i mamna,
"thanamut ngarra yile i mi lala
wanku thanamut."

mama-ka mi lawam mampatha dim.
i pipi-ka mampurl dim i Ngintinit
wanku kanam ngarra pipi.

GLOSSARY

bere	(topic introducer & end of story marker)
da	(noun class) localities, time
da niminem	place name
pemanhay	sand hill
damnamut	he/she gave to him
dim	he/she is sitting
dimku	he/she caught fish with line
i	and
-ka	(interrogative & topic marker)
kaka	mother's brother and father's sister's husband
kanadi	he/she went inside
kanala	he/she climbed
kanam	he/she is
kanamku	he/she is fishing with line
kanamkut	he/she collected
kanhi	this/here
kathu	towards

ku	(noun class) animals, birds, insects, marine life, meat
ku bali	mud crab
dirri	bird's nest
dumdum	bird's eggs
kalampitpit	pee wee
manthikat	rosella
mune	stingray species
pala	conch shell
thali	mitre shell
thurrudirr	fish species
le	happy
maku	no meat, no fish, no animals etc.
mam	he/she said
mama	mother, mother's sisters
mami	no food
mamna	he/she said to him
mampatha	he/she made
mampurl	he/she washed
mi	(noun class) food

mi kilen	edible species of berries
kumilu	bush potato species
mi lala	edible species of berries
lawam	damper
thanka	yam
mu	but, while, and
Nalpu	boy's name
neki	we two (inclusive)
-nu	for
nukunu	he/him/his
numi	one
ngarra	at, in, on, by, with
ngay	I/me/mine
Ngintinit	girl's name
paku	fighting stick
pama	he/she will do/say
pana	that/there
panidinu	he/she will go inside
panikutnu	he/she will collect

panilanu	he/she will climb
paninu	he/she will be
patha	good
peneme	they (3rd person, paucal, male)
pepe	down
pikunu	he/she will fish with line
pipi	father's sister, mother's brother's wife
thama	you do/say
thamul waya	fish spear
thanamut	you give to him
thay	tree (generic)
wanku	too, also, because
yile	father